

*Appl No. 09/197,278*  
*Page 2*

*Amendment*

the plurality of interconnecting elements including first interconnecting elements and second interconnecting elements,

the first interconnecting elements extending between peaks on the first undulating band-like element and troughs on the second undulating band-like element,

the second interconnecting elements extending between peaks on the second undulating band-like element and troughs on the third undulating band-like element,

wherein the number of peaks of the first undulating band-like element separating circumferentially adjacent first interconnecting elements is less than the number of peaks of the second undulating band-like element separating circumferentially adjacent second interconnecting elements.

40.(Amended) The stent of claim 39, the plurality of undulating band-like elements further comprising a fourth band-like element having alternating peaks and troughs,

the plurality of interconnecting elements further comprising third interconnecting elements extending between peaks on the third undulating band-like element and troughs on the fourth undulating band-like element,

wherein each second interconnecting element is separated from the third interconnecting element nearest to it by a single peak of the third undulating band-like element and a single trough of the third undulating band-like element.

41.(Amended) The stent of claim 40 where one third interconnecting element extends from every third peak of the third undulating band-like element.

45.(Amended) The stent of claim 40 wherein the first undulating band-like element is characterized by a first amplitude and the second undulating band-like element is characterized by a second amplitude, the first amplitude greater than the second amplitude.

46.(Amended) A stent comprising:

a plurality of undulating band-like elements having alternating peaks and troughs, the plurality of undulating band-like elements including a proximal undulating band-like element of a single first wavelength and single first amplitude having alternating peaks and troughs, an intermediate undulating band-like element of a single second wavelength and single

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

*Appl. No. 09/197,278**Amendment**Page 3*

second amplitude having alternating peaks and troughs, and a distal undulating band-like element of a single third wavelength and single third amplitude having alternating peaks and troughs, the intermediate undulating band-like element disposed between the proximal and distal undulating band-like elements, and

a plurality of interconnecting elements extending between undulating band-like elements which are adjacent one another, each interconnecting element having a first end and a second end which is offset circumferentially and longitudinally along the stent from the first end,

the plurality of interconnecting elements including first interconnecting elements and second interconnecting elements,

the first interconnecting elements extending between peaks on the proximal undulating band-like element and troughs on the intermediate undulating band-like element,

the second interconnecting elements extending between peaks on the intermediate undulating band-like element and troughs on the distal undulating band-like element,

wherein the first ends of the first interconnecting elements extend from every third peak of the proximal undulating band-like element and the second ends of the second interconnecting elements extend from every third trough of the intermediate undulating band-like element.

47.(Amended) The stent of claim 46 wherein the plurality of undulating band-like elements further comprises a second distal undulating band-like element having alternating peaks and troughs, the second distal undulating band-like element distal to the distal undulating band-like element,

the plurality of interconnecting elements including third interconnecting elements extending between peaks on the distal undulating band-like element and troughs on the second distal undulating band-like element,

wherein each second interconnecting element is separated from the third interconnecting element nearest to it by a single peak and a third trough of the distal undulating band-like element.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY